

HIS MAJESTIES  
GRACIOUS  
S P E E C H

To both Houses of  
PARLIAMENT:

Together with the SPEECH of  
Sir EDWARD TURNOR  
KNIGHT,

Speaker of the honourable House of

COMMONS,

On Tuesday *May* 17. 1664. at their  
PROROGATION.

EDINBURGH,

Re-printed by *Evan Tyler*, Printer to the King's most  
13 Excellent MAJESTY, 1664.





His *Majesties* gracious SPEECH to both  
Houses of Parliament.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

**I** Did desire and conjure you  
at the opening of this Ses-  
sion, that you would keep a  
very good correspondence to-  
gether, that it might not be  
in the power of any seditious or factious  
spirits to make you jealous of each other,  
or either of you jealous of Me. And I  
desired you to be ready for a Session  
within two moneths or thereabouts. I  
must confess to you, you have complied  
very fully with Me, for which I can  
never thank you enough; you have per-  
formed those good respects towards Me,  
and kept so very good correspondence to-  
wards each other, that you have exceed-  
ingly disappointed those ill men, who both  
at home and abroad had raised great  
hopes and expectation of new troubles



and confusions. You have gratified Me in all I desired, and are now ready for a Session within the time proposed. This harmony will (with Gods blessing) make Us all esteemed abroad, and secure at home; and these obligations cannot but make Me think the time long till we meet again.

The season of the year and your own affairs, will invite you into the Countrey; and your presence there is of great importance to my Service and to the publick Peace. You will watch those unquiet spirits which are still lurking, and ready to embrace all opportunities to involve the Nation in new distractions, under what specious pretences soever; and you will carefully inform the people how much it is in their own power to be as happy as they can wish to be. Indeed, if they are truly sensible of their present happiness, it will quickly be improved.

I will add no more, but that I thank you all, and every one of you; and if God bless Us till November, we will meet here again: I name November to you, because

because, if nothing extraordinary fall out,  
 I resolve not to meet till then: but be-  
 cause somewhat extraordinary may fall  
 out, you shall be at present prorogued but  
 till August: and before that day you shall  
 have seasonable notice by Proclamation  
 not to give your attendance, except there  
 be occasion, and then November will be the  
 time. And accordingly I have com-  
 manded the Chancellour to prorogue you.

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*The Speech of Sir Edward Turnor K<sup>t</sup>.  
 Speaker of the honourable House of  
 Commons, to the Kings most Excellent  
 Majesty, at the Prorogation of the  
 Parliament.*

*May it please your most Excellent Majesty,*



T the opening this Session, Your Ma-  
 jesty was pleased to recommend sever-  
 al things to the care of Your two  
 Houses of Parliament; the which we  
 have deliberately considered, and  
 unanimously presented our humble  
 advice thereupon.

The first thing we took into consideration, was the  
 Act made in the sixteenth year of the late King, of  
 glorious

glorious memory, for Triennial Parliaments: When we had given it a reading, we found it derogatory to the essential Prerogative of the Crown, of calling, holding, and dissolving Parliaments: We found it unpracticable, and only usefull to learn the people how to rebell; Therefore we melted it down, extracted the pure mettall from counterfeit and drossy allayes; and then presented it to Your *Majesty* to be new stamped, and made currant coyn for the use of the Nation. We do return our most humble thanks to Your *Majesty*, that You were pleased to accept our advice, and to pass our Bill; but more especially for those gracious expressions Your *Majesty* was pleased to use at that Solemnity, whereby we are assured not only of Your personal affection to Parliaments, but of Your judgment also, that the happiness of the Crown consists in the frequency of Parliaments

In the next place, we reviewed the Act for Chimney-Money, which we intended a great branch of Your *Majesties* Revenue, although by some mistakes it is fallen short: And in hopes Your *Majesty* may improve that receipt, we have prepared a Bill for the collecting that duty, by such Officers as Your *Majesty* and Your Successors shall from time to time think fit to appoint.

Whilst we were intent upon these weighty affairs, we were often interrupted by Petitions and Letters, and motions, representing the unsettled condition of some Countries, by reason of Phanaticks, Sectaries and Non-conformists; they differ in their shapes and species, and accordingly are more or less dangerous; but in this they all agree, they are no friends to the established Government either in Church or State And if the old rule hold true, *Qui Ecclesie contradicit non est pacificus,*



*ficus*, we have great reason to prevent their growth, and to punish their practise: To this purpose we have prepared a Bill against their frequenting of Conventicles, the seed-plots and nurseries of their Opinions, under pretence of religious Worship. The first offence we have made punishable only with a small Fine of five pounds, or three moneths imprisonment, and ten pounds for a Peer; The second offence with ten pounds, or six moneths imprisonment, and twenty pounds for a Peer; But for the third offence, after a tryal by a Jury at the general Quarter-Sessions or Assizes, and the tryal of a Peer by his Peers; the party convicted shall be transported to some of Your *Majesties* forreign Plantations, unless he redeem himself by laying down an hundred pounds, *Immedicabile vulnus Ense rescindendum, ne pars sincera trahatur*.

We have had much thought how to improve the industry of the Nation, and prevent that idleness and licentiousness which too fast grows upon us, especially by excessive and disorderly gaming; men are not contented to sport away their precious time, and play away their ready money, but to lose or pawn their Houses and Lands, their Manors and their Honours also. For the prevention of the growth of this disease, we have prepared a Bill to make all Securities for Money won at Play, whether real or personal, to be void.

We have examined also the reasons of the decay of Trade: In the first place, we found our Merchants are undermined by fraud and practise, and sometimes beaten out in the East and West *Indies*; in *Turky*, and in *Africa*, by our neighbours the *Dutch*, who; besides the unsufferable indignities offered to Your Royal Majesty, and the Crown of *England*, have in a few years spoiled Your Subjects,

Subjects, to the value of seven or eight hundred thousand pounds. For remedy whereof, we have made our humble Address to Your *Majesty*, and received a gracious Answer; and have no cause to fear but a short time will produce a just and honourable satisfaction.

The next obstruction to our Trade, hath been a base and degenerate practise of some Sea-men, who are willing to be robbed by Pirates, that they may share in the prize. We have therefore prepared a Bill for the punishment of such treacherous actions, and for the just reward of those honest Sea-men that shall preserve their Owners Goods, and manfully maintain the honour of our English Nation.

Some other discoveries we have made, which may be the subject matter of future Bills, but in respect of Your *Majesties* intimation of a short Session, we were not willing to attempt more then we could reasonably dispatch.

And now, *Great Sir*, give me leave with joy, to remember that unparalell'd unanimity that hath this Session attended our Counsels: Our constancy and resolution hath been tryed beyond the president of former Parliaments, or any other Session of this Parliament.

The Heathens were wont to observe and envy the Christians for their unity, and love of one another, *Ecce ut invicem se diligunt Christiani*: And may this happy correspondence between Your Royal *Majesty*, and Your two Houses of Parliament, increase and grow to be the envy of the World, till all Your *Majesties* enemies are forced to cry,

*Ecce ut invicem se diligunt Anglicani.*

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to the Kings most Excellent MAJESTY.





